GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1547
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2017
Consumer Welfare Fund
Reddy Shri Ch. Malla

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up Consumer Welfare Fund for providing financial assistance to promote and protect the welfare of the consumers, create consumer awareness and strengthen consumer movement in the country, particularly in rural areas;
(b) whether the Government also plans to set up Consumer Welfare Funds at State level to increase the coverage and horizon of disseminating relevant information to the consumers; and
(c) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated/utilised on the said purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) : Yes, Madam. The Central Government established the Consumer Welfare Fund under Rule 3 of the Consumer Welfare Fund Rules, 1992 framed under the Central Excise and Salt Act 1944, into which credits of amount of duty and income from investment along with other monies specified in sub section (2) of section 12C of the Act, is to be accredited. The overall objective of the Consumer Welfare Fund is to provide financial assistance to promote and protect the welfare of the consumers and strengthen the consumer movement in the country. The Fund has been set up by the Department of Revenue and, is being operated by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Department of Consumer Affairs. The Fund is utilized in accordance with Rules & Guidelines framed.

(b) & (c) : In the year 2003, all the States/UTs were impressed upon to set up a Consumer Welfare Fund at the State level, so that voluntary efforts for promoting the consumer movement could be strengthened at grass root level through financial support. Further, in 2010, proposals were sought from all the State/UTs to establish a corpus of Rs.10.00 crores, where it was decided that Central Government will contribute 75% of that amount as central share from the central Consumer Welfare Fund and rest 25% will be contributed by the States/UTs. With respect to special category States/UTs the central share was decided as 90%. Proposals have been received from 13 State Governments who have deposited their share in non-lapsable interest bearing account. Accordingly, the grant as center share for the purpose have been released to 13 States to increase the coverage and horizon of disseminating relevant information to the consumers. The details of fund released are as follows:

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Name of States	Amount Released
1.	Gujarat	7.50
2.	Andhra Pradesh	4.79*
3.	Orissa	7.50
4.	West Bengal	7.50
5.	Bihar	7.50
6.	Nagaland	8.40
7.	Karnataka	7.50
8.	Tamil Nadu	7.50
9.	Madhya Pradesh	7.50
10.	Kerala	7.50
11.	Haryana	7.50
12.	Jharkhand	4.00
13.	Telangana	2.71*
Total		87.40

* Subsequent to bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh the central share was divided in both the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
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